

REMARKS

Examiner has rejected Claims 1, 3, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16-19, 24 and 25, but has allowed Claims 26 and 27. Examiner has further objected to Claims 4-9, 12, 15 and 20-23, stating that the objected Claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, and for purposes of placing all claims, and thus, the application, in condition for allowance, Applicant has now amended all rejected independent claims to incorporate the allowable subject matter of the applicable referenced objected claims. Specifically, Applicant has incorporated the allowable subject matter of Claim 4 into Independent Claims 1 and 16, and has incorporated the allowable subject matter of Claim 12 into Independent Claims 11 and 25. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully believes that the rejected claims are now in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

The above-made amendments are to form only and thus, no new matter was added.

Applicant respectfully believes the above-made amendments now place the Claims and application in condition for allowance. This Response to Office Action is timely submitted within three (3) months from the mailing date of the Official Action, and is believed to be a full and complete response thereto. Should there be any questions or concerns, the Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 07/13/04
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CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service Express Mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: MS: Amendment, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on:

7-13-04

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(Name of Person Mailing)
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(Signature of Person Mailing)
7-13-04

(Date)